



**METRO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
OCTOBER 12, 2004**

SUBJECT: MINOR SERVICE CHANGES

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

BACKGROUND

Pasadena-Hollywood-Fairfax Rapid Bus

In September 2004, Governance Councils for the Westside/Central and San Gabriel Valley service sectors approved implementation of Metro Rapid Line 787 (Pasadena-Glendale-Hollywood-Fairfax Rapid Bus). During the discussions and public hearing process, concerns about the Rapid's proposed route length, route speed, and service reliability were raised. In addition, the traffic signal control systems required to provide Rapid Buses with additional green time, will not be operational within the Cities of Glendale and Pasadena until late spring 2005. Also, there will be significant traffic congestion, especially in December and January in Glendale and Pasadena.

Given the combination of these factors there is significant concern that this new Rapid Bus line would not be reliable. To address this situation, the San Gabriel Valley and Westside/Central sector staffs along with Metro Planning and Operations staff have agreed to implement the Pasadena to Hollywood leg of this Rapid Bus Line (Line 780) as an initial step. From Hollywood thru Fairfax, the Westside/Central Sector will implement a separate Limited Stop Line 317.

Following the completion of the signal control system along this corridor, staff will evaluate the schedule reliability and ridership levels of these two services. In addition, alternative methods for monitoring and managing this service on a real time basis will be applied. Staff will return to the Governance Council with this analysis along with a recommendation to either retain the two separate routes, or combine them into the longer signal route.

North Figueroa St. Limited Stop

Line 381 presently provides peak period only limited stop service along the route of Local Line 381. These lines operate from Eagle Rock to the Metro Green Line along Figueroa Street. Recently, uneven passenger loads have been occurring along the northern portion of Line 81/381. To address this concern, staff will be having the Line 381 trips make all Line 81 stops, north of downtown Los Angeles. This will add a maximum of an estimated three minutes to limited stop converted to local service. Line 381 will continue to operate limited stop service south of downtown Los Angeles.

While on-board trip times for some riders may increase by up to 3 minutes, passenger boarding at local stops will receive more service. Also, because this should better equalize the passenger loadings, fewer passengers will be required to stand.

Other Issues

The service frequencies on Lines 780 will be 12 minutes during rush hours and 15 minutes during midday. The local Line 180/181 will also operate at these frequencies to provide a combined service frequency of 6 minutes and 7-1/2 minutes. These are slightly better than the present service frequencies provided by Lines 180/181/380.

The change of service on Lines 81/381 will not impact the frequency of service. Additional trips will be added due to Consent Decree requirements.

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